



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : John Crescenti *et al.*  
Serial No. : 09/354,058 Confirmation No.: 4549  
Filed : July 15, 1999  
Title : HIERARCHICAL BACKUP AND RETRIEVAL  
SYSTEM  
Examiner : Ella Colbert  
Group Art Unit : 3624

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 6 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 21 of this paper.